

## Missouri River Fish & Wildlife Recovery Program

**Authority:** Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, 1988, and 1999; National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933; Flood Control Acts of 1938, 1944, and 1954; River and Harbors Act of 1945, as amended; Endangered Species Act of 1973



LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: The project includes areas along the Missouri River and is designed to recover Missouri River species protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act and the ecosystem on which they depend. It also implements Fish and Wildlife Mitigation for the Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project.

PROBLEM AND NEED: The Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project provided for a 9-foot-deep and at least a 300-foot-wide channel between Sioux City, Iowa, and the mouth near St. Louis, Missouri. This channel was established by constructing revetments on the riverbanks

and dike structures in the river channel. Construction of the Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Project started with the states of Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and Missouri and was authorized in 1986 and expanded with WRDA 1999. With the 2005 appropriation, the Missouri River Mitigation Program was combined with the Missouri River Biological Opinion Implementation to form the Missouri River Recovery Program. This Recovery Program will address all the environmental needs of the Missouri River and bring us into compliance required by the U.S Fish and Wildlife Biological Opinion.

## PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR FY07 and

FY08: For Fiscal Year 2007, we will complete development of St. Mary's Island and Council Bend. We will also start construction at Blackbird Bend in Iowa, do biological monitoring of completed sites, and purchase land at Blackbird and Copeland Bends in

<u>Financial Data</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY07 Anticipated Allocation	\$54,000,000
FY08 Budget Request	\$85,000,000
FY08 Capability	\$85,000,000

Iowa. In addition, wetlands will be developed at Langdon Bend in Nebraska. We will perform pallid sturgeon population assessments and produce a propagation report, as well as contribute to pallid sturgeon research performed by the U.S. Geological Service. Habitat will be constructed for the piping plover and least tern recovery below Gavin's Point Dam.

Ongoing activities in Fiscal Year 2008 include real estate acquisition for future construction; shallow water habitat design, construction, and monitoring; piping plover and least tern population assessment and habitat construction; and the development of a comprehensive recovery plan and programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for National Environmental Policy Act compliance.

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: Endangered species recovery is a Federal responsibility. The 1986 and 1999 authorizing acts for mitigation below Sioux City provide that the entire cost of the project, to include all lands, easements, rights-of-way, and relocations and all operations and maintenance costs, be borne by the Federal Government with no costs to state and local governments. Therefore, there is no non-Federal sponsor for this project. Authorized funding would be used for endangered species recovery and mitigation activities anywhere along the Missouri River system. Stakeholder participation in the Missouri River recovery effort is essential in order to ensure that public values are incorporated into the decision process. To that end, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are establishing a Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee comprised of diverse advisory stakeholders.